

DETAILED ACTION

1. This is the second Office action on the merits of Application No. 10/567,414, filed on 06 February 2006. Claims 1-7 and 14-16 are pending.

Documents

2. The following documents have been received and filed as part of the patent application:
- Information Disclosure Statement, received on 02/06/06
 - Foreign Priority Document, received on 12/03/07

EXAMINER'S AMENDMENT

3. An examiner's amendment to the record appears below. Should the changes and/or additions be unacceptable to applicant, an amendment may be filed as provided by 37 CFR 1.312. To ensure consideration of such an amendment, it **MUST** be submitted no later than the payment of the issue fee.

Authorization for this examiner's amendment was given in a telephone interview with applicants' attorney, Joan Pennington, on 02 June 2008.

The application has been amended as follows:

- Claim 1, line 9, "the engine" has been amended as --an engine--.
- Claim 4, line 3, "a predetermined upper limit" has been amended as --the predetermined upper limit--.
- Claim 14, line 8, "the engine" has been amended as --an engine--.

Allowable Subject Matter

4. Claims 1-7 and 14-16 are allowed.
5. The following is an examiner's statement of reasons for allowance:

Claim 1:

The prior art of record fails to show or render obvious a method of controlling a twin-clutch transmission, as recited in claim 1; specifically, wherein the method includes the steps of comparing torque provided by an engine with a current permissible upper limit for a selected gear and an operating mode of the transmission, the current permissible upper limit being selected to ensure that the first transmission path is protected from a torque overload; and diverting an excess component of the torque via the second transmission path responsive to the current permissible upper limit being exceeded.

Claim 14:

The prior art of record fails to show or render obvious a twin-clutch transmission comprising at least a first clutch and a second clutch, a drive shaft, an output shaft, a first transmission path, a second transmission path, and a controller, as recited in claim 14; specifically, wherein the controller compares the torque provided by an engine with a current permissible upper limit for a selected gear and an operating mode of the transmission, the current permissible upper limit being selected to ensure that the first

transmission path is protected from a torque overload; and controls the second clutch such that the controller diverts an excess component of the torque via the second transmission path responsive to the current permissible upper limit being exceeded.

Any comments considered necessary by applicant must be submitted no later than the payment of the issue fee and, to avoid processing delays, should preferably accompany the issue fee. Such submissions should be clearly labeled "Comments on Statement of Reasons for Allowance."

Conclusion

6. Any inquiry concerning this communication or earlier communications from the examiner should be directed to David D. Le whose telephone number is 571-272-7092. The examiner can normally be reached on Mon-Fri (0900-1730).

If attempts to reach the examiner by telephone are unsuccessful, the examiner's supervisor, Charles A. Marmor can be reached on 571-272-7095. The fax phone number for the organization where this application or proceeding is assigned is 571-273-8300.

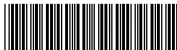
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system, contact the Electronic Business Center (EBC) at 866-217-9197 (toll-free). If you would like assistance from a USPTO Customer Service Representative or access to the automated information system, call 800-786-9199 (IN USA OR CANADA) or 571-272-1000.

/David D. Le/
Primary Examiner, Art Unit 3681
06/02/2008

ddl

Application Number**Application/Control No.**

10/567,414

Examiner

David D. Le

**Applicant(s)/Patent under
Reexamination**

KRAUSS ET AL.

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